

Getting the Diagnosis Right**Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 2**

1. THE USE OF THE LAW: To rightly understand what Lord's Day 2 says about God's law, we must remember the outline of the Heidelberg Catechism as a whole.
 - a. The central theme of the Heidelberg Catechism is _____.
 - b. The Catechism is divided into three parts: _____, _____, _____.
 - c. The Ten Commandments are discussed in detail, not here in the _____ part, but in the _____ part, emphasizing the role of the law in the life of the Christian as a positive _____ for how we are to live.

2. THE LAW OF GOD TELLS ME: God's commandments reveal our _____ and remind us of the need for his _____ in salvation.

- a. While the emphasis in Scripture is clearly on the positive use of the law in the Christian life, it is also clear that God's law tells us of the _____ into which we have been plunged by our _____ (Q&A 3).

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. (Romans 3:19-20)

- b. Christ summarizes God's law, quoting the Old Testament (Deuteronomy 6:5, Leviticus 19:18), as requiring love for _____ and love for _____ (Q&A 4).
- c. The heart of God's law as a matter of love makes it particularly clear that we are sinners by nature and that we are unable to earn or deserve our salvation (Q&A 5).

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:21-23)

3. GOOD NEWS: While it may not be obvious at first glance, this Lord's Day is entirely shaped by the _____.

- a. It is good that God's Word diagnoses our _____, so that we might be drawn to the proper _____.
- b. We are sinners "by nature" in Adam, language that reminds us that we are in _____, and have been given a new _____ in him.
- c. Even when it reveals our sin, the law of God comes to us in the _____ of _____ (Matthew 22:37-40).
- d. The revealing of our _____ is for our _____.

...and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. (Romans 3:24-25a)